

Amendments To The Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A device for spondylodesis and in particular for anterior intersomatic spondylodesis of the cervical spine, with at least one intervertebral implant, that functions as a pressure-absorbing spacer which stabilizes the spondylodesis and ensures that a solid osseous bridge forms between adjacent vertebral bodies and with at least one plate which is to be connected to the intervertebral implant and to an adjacent vertebra, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the intervertebral implant is connected to at least two plates which are arranged at a distance from one another, one end of each of the two plates forming a fixable joint together with the intervertebral implant[[.]] and wherein at least one plate has, at least at one end, a hemispherical joint part formed as a unit with and protruding transversely from said at least one plate, and wherein said joint part has a passage for a locking screw and engages in a hemispherical depression of an intervertebral implant to form a ball joint.

2. (currently amended) The device as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least one of the plates has a Z-shaped, I-shaped or L-shaped configuration.

3. (currently amended) The device as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least one plate, in a central area extending transversely with respect to the longitudinal axis of the spinal column, has at least one passage for a bone screw, so that this plate can be connected to a vertebra.

4. (currently amended) The device as claimed in claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said area has two passages arranged at a distance from one another and each intended for a bone screw.

Claim 5. (cancelled)

6. (currently amended) The device as claimed in ~~claim 5~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least two plates are each connected to an intervertebral implant via a polyaxial joint, in particular a ball joint.

7. (currently amended) The device as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least two L-shaped plates are connected to an intervertebral implant.

8. (currently amended) The device as claimed in ~~claim 7~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the two plates each have, in an arm extending transversely with respect to the longitudinal direction of the spinal column, at least two passages which are arranged at a distance from one another and each receive a bone screw.

9. (currently amended) The device as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein two intervertebral implants are connected to one another by a Z-shaped plate.

10. (currently amended) The device as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein two intervertebral implants are provided which are connected to one another by a Z-shaped plate and on each of which an L-shaped or I-shaped plate is secured, all the connections between the plates and the intervertebral implants being designed as polyaxial joints, in particular ball joints.

11. (currently amended) The device as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least one plate and/or an intervertebral implant is/are made of a material transparent to X-rays.

12. (currently amended) The device as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein it is provided for spondylodesis of the cervical spine.

13. (currently amended) A kit for producing the device as claimed in claim 1, with at least one intervertebral implant and with at least one plate for connecting the intervertebral implant to at least one vertebra, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least one plate is L-shaped and at least one plate is Z-shaped, and in that at least one intervertebral implant has two bores which are arranged at a distance from one another and each receive a locking screw.

14. (currently amended) The kit as claimed in claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the intervertebral implant and the plates each have at least one joint part for forming a ball joint.

15. (currently amended) The kit as claimed in claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the intervertebral implant and the plates are made of a material transparent to X-rays.

16. (currently amended) The kit as claimed in claim 13, ~~characterized by~~ including a plurality of bone screws and a plurality of locking screws.

Appln. No. 10/554,062

Amdt. dated January 29, 2008

Reply to Office Action of October 30, 2007

17. (currently amended) The kit as claimed in claim 16, ~~characterized-in-that~~ wherein the locking screws are ball-head screws having a screw head which is substantially hemispherical on its underside.